Apprehension of outbreak of Anthrax

†789. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an apprehension of outbreak of Anthrax in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to combat it?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is possible in the context of the present world scenario. Natural anthrax is endemic in some parts of the country. The data available with National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) is given below:

State	1999		2000		2001	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Karnataka	8	5	Nil		4	2
West Bengal	Nil		43	3	Nil	

(c) A statement is attached [Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 781 part (c)]

Overstay of Medical Officers of CGHS dispensaries of ISM&H

790. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Medical Officers of CGHS dispensaries of ISM&H are working at one station for more than two decades;

(b) whether the number of patients relating to ISM&H dispensaries has reduced considerably because of casual/negligent attitude of Medical Officers of these dispensaries; and

(c) if so, the action Government propose to take to improve the functioning of such dispensaries where the Medical Officers have staying for more than two decades and have become negligent towards patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) Yes, Sir. Further, there is

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.